

# **MINUTES**

## **Council on Postsecondary Education**

### **March 25, 2002**

The Council on Postsecondary Education met March 25, 2002, at 8:30 a.m. at the council offices in Frankfort. Chair Whitehead presided.

#### **ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: Norma Adams, Walter Baker, Bart Darrell, Richard Freed, Susan Guess, John Hall, Charlie Owen, Christopher Pace, Joan Taylor, Lois Weinberg, and Charles Whitehead. Steve Barger, Peggy Bertelsman, Ron Greenberg, and Gene Wilhoit did not attend.

#### **VIRTUAL GROUNDBREAKING FOR EKU ON-LINE MASTER'S IN LOSS PREVENTION**

Chair Whitehead, KYVU CEO Daniel Rabuzzi, and Gordon Davies joined Eastern Kentucky University President Joanne Glasser and other EKU representatives in the virtual groundbreaking for EKU's on-line master's degree program in loss prevention and safety. EKU developed the program using \$225,000 awarded to it from the Kentucky Virtual University revolving loan fund to cover part of the expenses.

#### **SPECIAL AGENDA – PREPARING KENTUCKIANS FOR THE KNOWLEDGE- BASED ECONOMY**

Mr. Davies said that an important part of postsecondary education reform is educating women and men to become skilled and knowledgeable citizens and workers in a knowledge-based economy. The special agenda for this meeting focused on programs that increase access and seek to motivate participation in education beyond high school.

In June 2001, the council began a statewide public communication campaign to raise awareness and the need for more education and to involve communities across the state in convincing their citizens to continue their education. Faculty from several universities and the KCTCS worked with two communication firms, red7e and Guthrie Mayes, to design the campaign. Holly Turney with red7e presented highlights of the Go Higher media campaign.

Yvonne Lovell, director of the state GEAR UP grant (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs), and Bob Sexton, executive director of the Prichard Committee, described this federally funded project. The Kentucky Board of Education, the Prichard Committee, and the council are partners in the grant. Their goal is to help thousands of economically disadvantaged students who are now in middle schools throughout Kentucky understand that they can and should go on to college. Rich Prewitt, principal of Whitley County Middle School, and Gail Yates, community education coordinator at Christian County Middle School, shared how GEAR UP is affecting students in their schools.

Julie Scoskie, director of the Jefferson County Adult Education Program, provided highlights of the work being done to raise educational levels and strengthen the workforce in her region of the state. She was joined by Pat O'Leary, human resource director at UPS in Louisville, and Bob Huffman, executive director of Kentuckiana Works.

Keith Byrd, KCTCS chancellor, described the system's work with high schools, employers, and four-year colleges to encourage Kentuckians to enroll in postsecondary education. He was joined by two employers – Jim Hart with Autoliv North America in Madisonville and Steve Kali with American Woodmark in Monticello – who discussed their partnerships with the KCTCS.

The special agenda concluded with Presidents Joanne Glasser and Jim Votruba discussing the ways in which the universities are preparing people for jobs in a knowledge-based economy, contributing to economic development, and working to improve Kentucky's communities. They were joined by Sylvia Lovely, president of the Kentucky League of Cities.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Council staff member Bill Swinford gave an update on the legislative session. The Governor has signed House Bill 191, which will integrate the independent institutions into the postsecondary system and into postsecondary reform. This legislation gives the council the opportunity to contract with independent institutions to provide needs for particular programs. Another topic that received considerable discussion during the session is the funding of the Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship program. The program is funded adequately for this biennium, but the program should be addressed prior to the 2004 legislative session. Information about other legislation was provided for information.

Angie Martin, council vice president for finance, explained a handout showing the current status of the budget recommendations of the individual institutions and the council. At this time, only one of the council's priority funding projects – the enrollment growth and retention program – will not receive funding. Mr. Davies said that,

#### BUDGET UPDATE

compared to other parts of state government, postsecondary education has fared well.

A progress report was provided on the council's key indicators for measuring progress. Last March, the council established roughly 40 indicators of progress under the five questions. Over the course of the last year, the council has set goals for most of those. Institutional enrollment data is now available to help gauge progress toward the 2002 goals. Current information is available on the council's Web site.

#### PROGRESS REPORT ON KEY INDICATORS

A report on the work of the P-16 Council was provided in the agenda book.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The staff recommends that the council approve the 2002-06 institutional goals for enrollment and retention, change the retention definition for Key Indicator 3.1, and eliminate Key Indicators 3.3 and 3.6.

#### P-16 COUNCIL UPDATE

#### KEY INDICATORS OF PROGRESS – ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION GOALS

With fall 2001 enrollments now known, several institutions have exceeded their 2002 and 2003 enrollment goals. Kentucky's colleges and universities could achieve the goal of enrolling 80,000 more undergraduate students by 2015, five years ahead of the original 2020 goal. The council staff asked the institutions to reconsider their 2002-06 goals. Tables showing the revised recommended goals were included in the agenda materials.

Key Indicator 3.1 (one-year retention rate of first-time freshmen) will no longer be reported as a three-year average, but as an annual figure. Because the new retention indicator measures degree-, diploma-, and certificate-seeking students at two-year institutions retained in the system, Key Indicators 3.3 (one-year system wide retention rate of first-time freshmen) and 3.6 (one-year persistence rates of associate, diploma, and certificate students at the KCTCS) are no longer needed.

MOTION: Ms. Weinberg moved that the recommendation be approved.  
Mr. Freed seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council approve the Enrollment Growth and Retention Program Guidelines, contingent upon review by SCOPE at its May 13, 2002, meeting.

In November 2001, the council asked the staff to look again at the Enrollment Growth and Retention Trust Fund guidelines. Mr. Davies pointed out that these guidelines might never be used because at this time there is no enrollment and retention growth program in the Governor's budget recommendation to the legislature.

ENROLLMENT GROWTH  
AND RETENTION  
GUIDELINES

MOTION: Ms. Adams moved that the recommendation be approved.  
Mr. Darrell seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

The staff withdrew the item pertaining the KEES administrative regulation. This recommendation will be presented at the May council meeting.

A report of the Committee on Equal Opportunities was included in the agenda book. Kentucky continues to make progress toward achieving the commitments outlined in the Partnership Agreement with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights and the Kentucky Plan. The agreement is scheduled to be complete by December 31, 2002.

KEES ADMINISTRATIVE  
REGULATION AMENDMENT

1997-2002 KY PLAN AND  
OCR PARTNERSHIP

The West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission has approached the KCTCS and the KYVU to explore collaboration in distance learning. The immediate goal is to open a limited number of KCTCS on-line courses and the Kentucky Virtual Library to a specified number of West Virginia students as early as fall 2002. By 2003, the two states together would develop on-line courses that neither offer now, collaborate on faculty training and exchange programs, and share student advising resources. The staff is expected to present a completed memorandum of agreement with the West Virginia Commission at the May council meeting.

WEST VIRGINIA/  
KYVU MEMO OF  
AGREEMENT

The staff was asked to provide a comparison of virtual universities at a future meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council accept the final productivity reports of the KCTCS and Lexington Community College.

This review began in fall 2000. For the KCTCS and LCC, the council staff identified 22 percent of the total associate programs offered (32 of 146) as potentially low-productivity degree programs. The KCTCS will close five programs, alter 18, and retain six programs that provide other valuable services to the colleges. LCC has justified continuation of its three low-productivity programs. The technical colleges of

FINAL PROGRAM  
PRODUCTIVITY REPORTS:  
KCTCS AND LCC

the KCTCS were excluded from this review because they have no degree programs more than four years old.

MOTION: Mr. Freed moved that the recommendation be approved. Ms. Weinberg seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

As part of its delegation of responsibility to the universities and the KCTCS, the council authorized the institutions to initiate programs within broad bands of the curriculum without council approval. An on-line system of posting proposed degree programs has allowed the programs to be reviewed by all colleges and universities, both public and private, prior to their being initiated. Since spring 2000, 52 new programs have begun. During the same time, 157 degree programs have closed. This spring, the council staff is meeting with each institution to review campus program approval procedures. A report on these visits will be provided at the July council meeting.

#### NEW PROGRAM REPORT

In November 2001, the KYVU requested proposals for the development of on-line programs to be partially funded through the KYVU revolving loan fund. This fund is available to institutions to develop Web-based programs and then the institutions pay back the virtual university. A list of proposals was provided for information. This program was approved as part of the KYVU budget.

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council amend the 2002-04 list of eligible programs for agency bond authority to include the University of Louisville's \$4.7 million fiber optic project and Western Kentucky University's \$1.5 million materials characterization center renovation project.

#### KYVU REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COMPETITION

Mr. Davies said that agency bonds are bonds issued by and paid off by the institutions. The state does not pay them off. Projects must be on the council's list in order to be eligible for agency bond funding. Amending the list of projects does not guarantee funding. The current 2002-04 list includes 46 projects, totaling \$270.3 million.

#### AMENDMENTS TO 2002-04 LIST OF PROJECTS ELIGIBLE FOR AGENCY BOND AUTHORITY

MOTION: Mr. Owen moved that the recommendation be approved. Mr. Darrell seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

A status report was provided on student housing fire safety.

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council approve the council Conflict of Interest Policy.

MOTION: Mr. Freed moved that the recommendation be approved. Ms. Weinberg seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

#### STUDENT HOUSING FIRE SAFETY COUNCIL CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

RECOMMENDATION: The staff recommends that the council approve the submission by council staff of a \$450,000 three-year grant proposal to the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, including all understandings and assurances required by FIPSE, and authorize Gordon Davies and Gene Ranvier, KYVU director of student services (as project director), to act in connection with the grant application.

This grant would create critical parts of an on-line counseling and advising system to augment the efforts of high school guidance counselors. If approved, this service would extend the council's and the virtual university's help desk capacity to students and potential students all over the state.

MOTION: Ms. Weinberg moved that the recommendation be approved.

FIPSE PROPOSAL

Ms. Guess seconded the motion.

VOTE: The motion passed.

Mr. Whitehead appointed a nominating committee of Ms. Adams, Ms. Weinberg, Mr. Barger, and himself to select the council's chair and vice chair for the coming year. Recommendations will be brought to the May council meeting.

Mr. Whitehead announced the appointment of Charlie Owen to the Strategic Committee on Postsecondary Education.

The council will meet May 19 and 20 at Northern Kentucky University.

Mr. Baker expressed concern about the scores received on the PRAXIS exams by students enrolled in the teacher preparation programs at Kentucky State University. He asked Mr. Davies to meet with KSU representatives to determine steps to correct this.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The council members were encouraged to attend the afternoon meeting of the Chief Academic Officers to discuss collaboration.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

SCOPE APPOINTMENT

NEXT MEETING

KSU

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Gordon K. Davies  
President

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Phyllis L. Bailey  
Secretary

COLLABORATION  
DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT

Council on Postsecondary Education  
March 25, 2002

## Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education Grant Proposal

**Action: The staff recommends that the council approve the submission by council staff of a \$450,000 three-year grant proposal to the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE), including all understandings and assurances required by FIPSE, and authorize Gordon Davies and Gene Ranvier, KYVU Director of Student Services (as project director), to act in connection with the grant application.**

If awarded, this FIPSE grant would partially fund the creation of the Kentucky Virtual University Coordinated Advising Network ("U CAN"), which will be an interactive, single point of contact for Kentucky learners for pre-admission, academic, career, and financial aid counseling services. U CAN's purpose is to help increase the college-going rate, student retention, and graduation, and to improve access to GED courses and workplace skills training.

Core partners in U CAN's first phase will include the Kentucky Department of Education, the Kentucky Department for Adult Education and Literacy, the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. All Kentucky colleges and universities will be welcome to join U CAN. The council is the legal applicant and, if the grant is awarded, would be project leader and fiscal agent. The council would provide \$406,000 in match, including the allocation of staff resources to work on U CAN.

At the November 5, 2001, council meeting, council staff informed the council of the intent to submit a proposal to FIPSE. Details of the proposed grant have changed since then: the total proposed grant amount is lower; the match proposed is higher; and the proposal no longer includes the private company SmarThinking.

The Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education is a unit of the U.S. Department of Education. On a competitive basis, FIPSE funds proposals intended to support innovative educational reform projects that can serve as national models for the improvement of postsecondary education.

Staff preparation by Daniel A. Rabuzzi